

Shirley Mae (Struck) Conway was born on a farm outside of Victor, South Dakota on May 24, 1931, the fifth of ten children born to her parents, Ortwin and Hazel (Leen) Struck.

In 1950, Shirley moved to Willmar, Minnesota to answer a call for nurses. Shirley worked as a nurse at Rice Memorial Hospital, the Willmar Clinic, later HCMC and several nursing homes and board and care facilities for most of the next fifty years.

On November 19, 1955, Shirley married James Walter Conway (Jim), a Willmar native. They settled in Willmar and raised four children: Dan, Julie, Steve and John. Shirley was an engaged mother who supported her kids in their varied interests including music, theater, sports, camping and travel.

Shirley was active in the community; at St. Mary's Catholic Church, she served as Girl Scout and Cub Scout leader, co-chaired the Funeral Committee, started the Social Justice Committee and worked endless hours on Fall Festivals among other involvements. She was active in the Democratic Party, God's Hams, and she chaired the Willmar Area Food Shelf. She and Jim were early members, of the Willmar Hockey Association and they started the AIDS Walk raising funds and awareness of the impact of AIDS. She also served on the board of her Condo Association, volunteered for Hospice, as a Reading Aide, and she worked to teach Somali women how to sew.

And Shirley played bridge; by her report she was playing in five clubs when she went to visit California for the winter, and she played there too, until COVID prevented even small gatherings. The importance of her Bridge Clubs can't be overstated, she did love to play, but it was the friendships she missed.

She is survived by three children: Julie of Santa Cruz, CA, Steve (Diane) of Anchorage, AK, and John (Ashley) of Santa Cruz, CA; five grandchildren: Isaac Conway-Stenzel, Lisa Conway and James Conway of California, Emily Marengo and Marlee Conway of Alaska and a step-granddaughter, Faye Perry (Bevan) of California; two great grandsons, Donovan and Griffin and Faye's children Cassidy and Sawyer. Also surviving are four siblings: Charles Struck, Ruthann Ulstad, Larry Struck and Ron Struck and all their wonderful families.

Shirley was preceded in death by her husband, Jim; her son, Dan; her parents; her brothers, Wallace, Donald and Orlyn; her sisters, Marlys and Dorothea; and her nephew, Brett; as well as her Conway in-laws and out-laws.

Celebrating the Life of



Shirley M. Conway

1931 - 2022



Twenty-Third Psalm

The Lord is my Shepherd:

I shall not want...

He maketh me to lie down

in green pastures:

He leadeth me beside the still waters...

He restoreth my soul:

He leadeth me in the paths

of righteousness for His name's sake...

Yea, though I walk through the valley of

the shadow of death, I will fear no evil:

for Thou art with me; Thy rod and Thy staff,

they comfort me. Thou preparest a table

before me in the presence of mine

enemies: Thou anointest my head with oil;

my cup runneth over...

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me

all the days of my life: and I will dwell in

the house of the Lord forever.

Arrangements By

Peterson Brothers Funeral Home

"Celebrating A Life Remembered"

In Loving Memory Of

Shirley M. Conway

May 24, 1931

Victor, South Dakota

August 23, 2022

Santa Cruz, California

Mass of Christian Burial

Saturday, October 1, 2022 - 11:00 a.m.

Church of St. Mary

Willmar, Minnesota

Celebrant

Fr. Steve Verhelst

Music

Pianist: Tim Cayler

St. Mary's Resurrection Choir

Soloist: Anne Menke

Gathering Song: *"Here I Am Lord"*

Responsorial Psalm: *"Psalm 23: The Lord Is My Shepherd"*

Preparation of the Gifts: *"It Is Well With My Soul"*

Solo: *"The Lord's Prayer"*

Communion: *"Amazing Grace - In The Garden"*

Post Communion: *"Summers End"* – recording by John Prine

Song of Farewell: *"O Loving God"*

Going Forth Song: *"How Great Thou Art"*

Interment

St. Mary's Catholic Cemetery

Willmar, Minnesota